



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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Concord, New Hampshire 03301*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
July 8, 2003**

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**PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS**

**NORTHFIELD MAN CHARGED WITH FEDERAL  
WEAPONS AND DRUG OFFENSES AFTER  
ATTEMPTING TO TRADE ASSAULT RIFLE FOR "CRACK" COCAINE**

**Re: United States v. Shaun HIBBARD**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE:** United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, N.H. State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, Tilton Police Chief Kent Chapman and Northfield Police Chief Scott Hilliard announce that Shaun HIBBARD, DOB 6/5/80, of Northfield, New Hampshire was arrested July 1, 2003 on a federal criminal complaint charging him with attempted possession of "crack cocaine" with the intent to distribute, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

HIBBARD appeared in the U.S. District Court today before U.S. Magistrate Judge James R. Muirhead, who detained him without bail pending indictment and trial in U.S. District Court in Concord.

The criminal complaint against HIBBARD, part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" (PSN) initiative, alleges that HIBBARD attempted to trade an AK-47 semi-automatic assault rifle for an ounce of "crack" cocaine in Tilton, New Hampshire on July, 1, 2003. HIBBARD faces potential sentences of 20 years imprisonment on the drug charge, and life imprisonment on the weapons charge.

The charges resulted from an investigation conducted by the N.H. State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit with assistance from the Tilton and Northfield Police Departments. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.

***UNITED STATES ATTORNEY COLANTUONO REMINDS THE PUBLIC THAT AN INDICTMENT IS ONLY AN ALLEGATION AND NOT PROOF OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT. AS IN ALL CASES, EACH DEFENDANT IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.***